RESOLUTION NO. 20130307-067

WHEREAS, Austin is continually exploring innovative transportation solutions; and

WHEREAS, ridesharing may be a sustainable and efficient peer-to-peer transportation option whereby individuals are enabled to share the cost of automobile travel without compensation as defined by Code; and

WHEREAS, ridesharing is being promoted nationally through a variety of new apps and websites; and

WHEREAS, Austinites are currently sharing rides using these apps; and

WHEREAS, Austin's transportation code does not clearly address or regulate ridesharing; and

WHEREAS, when Dr. Ray Mundy studied ground transportation in Austin in September of 2011 he cited the need for each transportation option to serve a particular niche in order to be part of a well-functioning, comprehensive transportation system; and

WHEREAS, ridesharing could potentially serve a particular niche in the spectrum of transportation services, if regulated so as not to overlap with existing transportation options; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The City Manager is directed to explore ridesharing regulations in other cities and make recommendations on the parameters within which ridesharing...
should be allowed in the City of Austin. The recommendations should address, but not be limited to:

1. Insurance, registration, and license requirements;
2. Criminal and driving background checks for drivers;
3. The method of connecting drivers to riders; and
4. Cost-sharing parameters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is further directed to bring the recommendations and proposed ordinance, if any, to Council by June 1, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to issue and enforce cease and desist orders against firms that engage in peer-to-peer ridesharing for compensation, and to use whatever legal and effective means are available to discourage use of peer-to-peer ridesharing for compensation until the public safety and other regulatory concerns have been addressed.

ADOPTED: March 7, 2013

ATTEST: Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk